

PUBLIC SAFETY ELEMENT

INTRODUCTION

Quality of life in Temecula is influenced in part by the sense of security that exists among City residents and businesses. The community must be prepared to address issues such as uncontrollable natural hazards, crime and violence, and other human caused hazards. The Public Safety Element establishes goals, policies, and a plan to identify potential hazards and to ensure adequate, coordinated, and timely response to public safety concerns. The provision of public services which would respond to these hazards are addressed in the Growth Management/Public Facilities Element.

PURPOSE OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY ELEMENT

The purpose of the Public Safety Element is to identify and address features or characteristics in or near Temecula that represent a potential hazard to community residents, structures, public facilities, and infrastructure. The Public Safety Element establishes policies to minimize potential danger to residents, workers, and visitors, and identifies actions needed to manage crisis situations, such as earthquakes, fires, and floods. The Element also focuses on preventing criminal activity before it occurs. In addition specific policies and programs are provided to regulate development in hazard-prone areas. Continuing education for City officials and residents about emergency preparedness is also addressed.

SCOPE AND CONTENT OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY ELEMENT

The Public Safety Element satisfies the requirements of State planning law and is a mandated component of the City's General Plan. Government Code section 65302(g) sets forth a list of hazards that the Element must cover, if they pertain to conditions in the City. These hazards include:

- Seismically induced conditions including ground shaking, surface rupture, ground failure, tsunamis, seiche, and dam failure
- Slope instability leading to mudslides and landslides
- Subsidence, liquefaction, and other geologic hazards



P U B L I C S A F E T Y

- Flooding
- Wild land and urban fires
- Evacuation routes

State law also allows communities to address additional safety issues. The following additional issues are addressed in the Element:

- Criminal activities
- Hazardous materials
- Nuclear hazards from the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station

The Public Safety Element must be consistent with the other General Plan elements, and most closely relates to the Land Use and Circulation Elements. Potential hazards are identified and action programs established in the Public Safety Element to avoid or mitigate public safety hazards associated with planned development. The Land Use Element contains policies to ensure that environmental conditions, including hazards, are considered in all land use decisions. The distribution of residential and other sensitive land uses on the Land Use Policy Map is designed to avoid areas where hazardous conditions have been identified.

Evacuation routes utilizing the City circulation system are also described in the Public Safety Element. The provision of viable evacuation routes within the City is inextricably linked to the planned circulation system described in the Circulation Element.

RELATED PLANS AND PROGRAMS

There is a complex body of State and federal legislation relating to the protection of public health and safety and environmental resources. The following section briefly summarizes related legislation that guides City decision-making with regard to land use and physical development.

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA) GUIDELINES

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) was adopted by the State legislature in response to a public mandate for a thorough environmental analysis of projects that might adversely affect the environment. Provisions of the law, required procedures, and any subsequent analysis are described in the CEQA Statutes and Guidelines. Safety hazards are recognized as environmental impacts under CEQA.



Continued implementation of CEQA will ensure that City officials and the general public have information describing assessment and mitigation of potentially significant safety impacts associated with private and public development projects.

ALQUIST-PRIOLO EARTHQUAKE FAULT ZONING ACT

The Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Act requires the State Geologist to identify earthquake fault zones along traces of both recently and potentially active major faults. Cities and counties that contain such zones must inform the public regarding the location of these zones, which are usually one-quarter mile or less in width. Proposed development plans within these earthquake fault zones must be accompanied by a geotechnical report prepared by a qualified geologist describing the likelihood of surface rupture.

SEISMIC HAZARDS MAPPING ACT

The purpose of the Seismic Hazards Mapping Act (Public Resources Code Section 2690, et. seq.) is to reduce the threat to public safety and minimize the loss of life and property by identifying and mitigating seismic hazards. The Act directs the State Geologist to identify and map areas prone to earthquake hazards of liquefaction, earthquake-induced landslides and amplified ground shaking, and requires site-specific geotechnical investigations to be conducted identifying the hazard and formulating mitigation measures prior to permitting most developments designed for human occupancy within Zones of Required Investigation.

COBEY-ALQUIST FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT ACT

The Cobey-Alquist Floodplain Management Act encourages local governments to plan, adopt, and enforce land use regulations for floodplain management, in order to protect people and property from flooding hazards. The Act also identifies requirements which jurisdictions must meet in order to receive State financial assistance for flood control.

NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM (NFIP)

Temecula participates in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), which is administered by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). NFIP provides federal flood insurance and federally financed loans for property owners in flood prone areas. To qualify for federal flood insurance, the City must



identify flood hazard areas and implement a system of protective controls.

RIVERSIDE COUNTY HAZARDOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN

Developed pursuant to the Tanner Act (AB 2948), the Riverside County Hazardous Waste Management Plan (HWMP) identifies current and projected future hazardous waste generation and management needs throughout the County. The HWMP provides a framework for the development of facilities to manage hazardous wastes, i.e. facility siting criteria. The HWMP also includes a Households Hazardous Waste Element that is designed to divert household hazardous wastes from the County's landfills.

The County HWMP addresses only those hazardous waste issues with which local governments have responsibilities, namely land use decisions. The County and cities are required to implement facility siting policies and criteria within local planning and permitting processes. The City is required to take one of three actions:

- Adopt a City hazardous waste management plan
- Incorporate by reference all applicable portions of the County Plan into its General Plan
- Enact an ordinance requiring all applicable land use permitting and decisions to be consistent with the siting criteria set forth in the County HWMP

The City has adopted by reference the applicable portions of the County HWMP.

SAN ONOFRE NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION (SONGS)

The San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station (SONGS) is located near the southern boundary of Orange County, approximately 25 miles west of Temecula. SONGS is a jointly owned enterprise among Southern California Edison, San Diego Gas and Electric, and the cities of Riverside and Anaheim. For hazard mitigation purposes, the federal and State governments have created three levels of emergency zones surrounding nuclear facilities:

- Emergency Planning Zone (EPZ): The federal government requires that communities within approximately 10 miles of a nuclear power plant be included in an EPZ. Within this zone, specific emergency protective plans have been developed.



- Public Education Zone (PEZ): The State of California has defined a broader area between 10 to 20 miles from a plant as a PEZ. Within this zone, the public is informed on preparedness plans. The distance from the plant, however, would make evacuation highly unlikely.
- Ingestion Pathway Zone (IPZ): Temecula is located within this zone which covers the areas within 50 miles of SONGS. The purpose of this zone is to prevent the accidental ingestion of deposited radioactive materials by humans and livestock. Southern California Edison, who operates SONGS, will provide notification to all affected jurisdictions within 15 minutes of declaration of any emergency.

MULTI-HAZARD FUNCTIONAL PLAN

The City adopted a Multi-Hazard Functional Plan in 1996 pursuant to the California Emergency Services Act. The primary objective of the plan is to ensure the effective management of City personnel and resources in responding to emergency situations stemming from natural disasters, technological incidents, and nuclear defense emergencies. The adoption and implementation of the Multi-Hazard Functional Plan also lends protection to the City from liability claims.

CITY OF TEMECULA CODES

The City has adopted the California Building Code, California Mechanical Code, Uniform Fire Code, the National Electrical Code and other related codes that contain structural requirements for existing and new buildings. The codes are designed to insure structure integrity during seismic and other hazardous events and to prevent personal injury, loss of life and substantial property damage. To protect the public, planned development in Temecula is subject to these structural codes.



PUBLIC SAFETY PLAN

As in all communities, human activities and natural conditions occurring in Temecula have an effect on residents' quality of life. Providing an environment where businesses and residents can prosper and feel safe, and being prepared for emergency situations are essential. The City can minimize hazards and protect public health and private property through emergency preparedness planning.

NATURAL HAZARDS

Natural hazards addressed in the Public Safety Element include seismic, geologic, flood, dam failure and wild land fire hazards.

SEISMIC HAZARDS






The Elsinore fault traverses the City, which has historically experienced earthquakes of moderate magnitude (See Figure PS-1). The Elsinore fault zone is one of the largest in southern California, and in historical times, has been one of the quietest. The southeastern extension of the Elsinore fault zone, the Laguna Salada fault, ruptured in 1892 in a magnitude 7.0 earthquake, but the main trace of the Elsinore fault zone has only seen one historical event greater than magnitude 5.2—the magnitude 6.0 earthquake of 1910 near Temescal Valley, which produced no known surface rupture and did little damage. Other faults surrounding Temecula include the San Andreas, San Jacinto, San Gabriel, Newport-Inglewood, Sierra Madre-Santa Susana-Cucamonga, Rose Canyon, Coronado Banks, San Diego Trough and San Clemente Island faults.



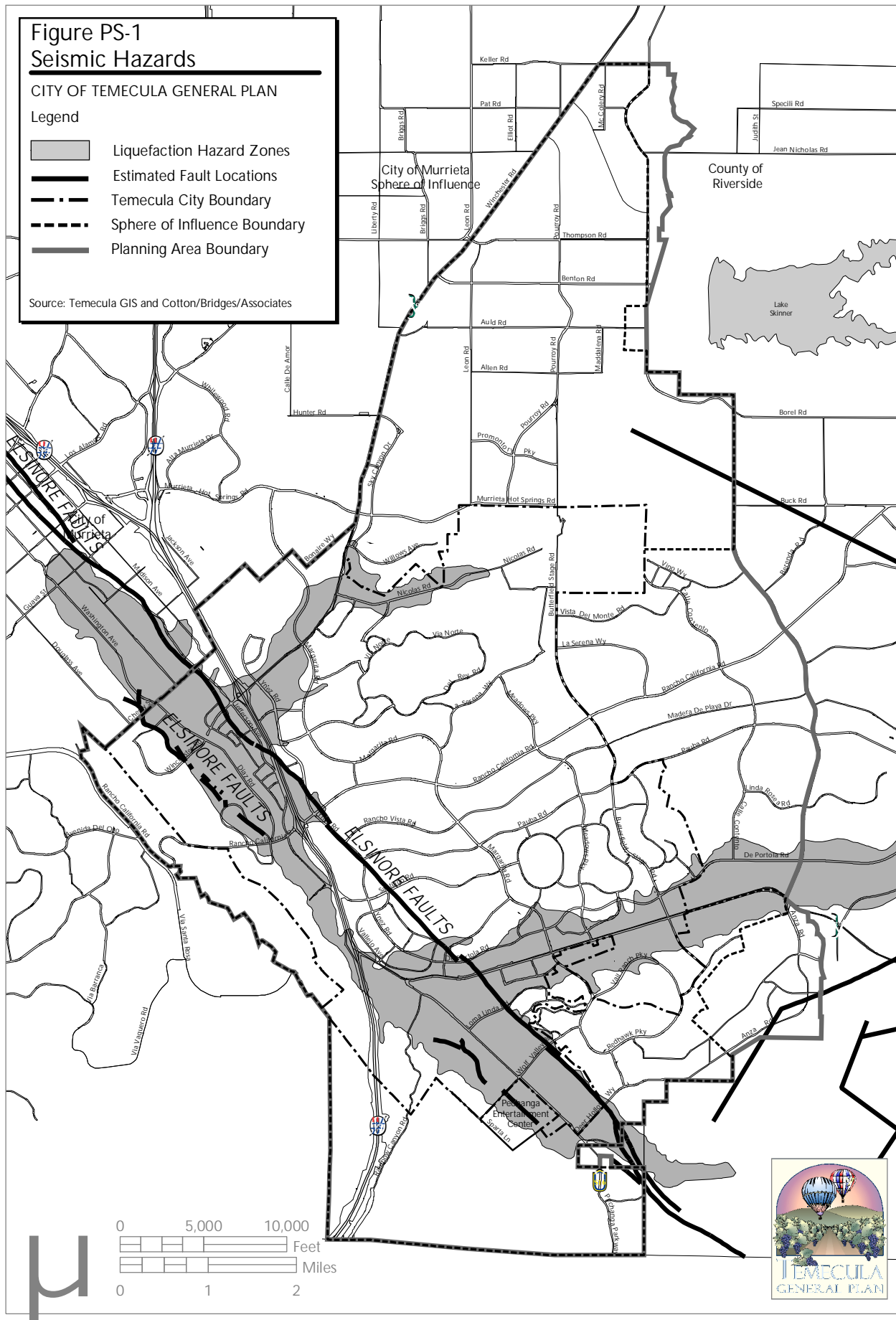
Figure PS-1 Seismic Hazards

CITY OF TEMECULA GENERAL PLAN

Legend

-  Liquefaction Hazard Zones
 Estimated Fault Locations
 Temecula City Boundary
 Sphere of Influence Boundary
 Planning Area Boundary

Source: Temecula GIS and Cotton/Bridges/Associates





PLANS IN ACTION

Proposed development projects in the Elsinore fault zone require evaluation and a written report specific to the site, prepared by a licensed geologist. Structures for human occupancy cannot be placed over the fault and must be set back from the fault (generally 50 feet).

Fault Rupture. The Elsinore fault zone is an Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zone, governed by specific State development criteria designed to prevent damage associated with ground surface rupture. Structures intended for human occupancy are not permitted on an active fault. Before a project can be permitted, the City requires a geologic investigation to demonstrate that proposed buildings will not be constructed across the fault.



Ground Shaking. Severe ground shaking is possible in Temecula due to the presence of loosely consolidated alluvial soils. Ground shaking causes structural damage, and is the major cause of soil instability hazards, such as liquefaction, subsidence, or slope failure. Riverside County has established Ground Shaking Zones indicating the relative level of risk based on distance from faults and geologic characteristics of an area. Development proposals are evaluated using guidelines, which indicate the suitability of locating land uses in various ground shaking zones. The Temecula Planning Area is located in Ground Shaking Zone II, where shaking is expected to vary from moderate to intense levels in the event of an earthquake, depending on the composition of underlying geologic formations, the earthquake's epicenter, and the order of magnitude of the seismic event.

PLANS IN ACTION

The only remaining URM structure in Old Town, the Temecula Merchantile Building (1902), has been retrofitted to meet current seismic safety standards.

Unreinforced masonry (URM) structures and adobe block construction are particularly susceptible to failure and/or collapse during an earthquake. New structures conforming to California Building Code standards can withstand ground shaking with little or no structural damage. Older buildings can also be retrofitted to improve structural integrity. To identify structures most prone to failure, the City conducted a seismic inventory of structures in Old Town, where buildings are least likely to be able to withstand moderate ground shaking.

GEOLOGIC HAZARDS

Ground shaking following an earthquake leads to other potential geologic hazards such as liquefaction, landslides, and subsidence. The potential for these hazards depends upon the severity of



ground shaking and underlying geologic conditions. Temecula is subject to the following potential geologic hazards.

Liquefaction. The potential for liquefaction in an area is a function of soil type and depth of groundwater. Poorly consolidated soils combine with groundwater during an earthquake, losing their shear strength and taking on the properties of a heavy liquid. This process, termed liquefaction, can result in the loss of foundation support, ground failure due to lateral spreading, and settlement of affected soils. Three general conditions must be met for liquefaction to occur: (1) strong ground shaking of relatively long duration; (2) loose, or unconsolidated, recently deposited sediments consisting primarily of silty sand and sand; and (3) water saturated sediments within about 50 feet of the surface.

As shown in Figure PS-1, there is a possibility that liquefaction could occur in the Temecula area, particularly along Santa Gertrudis and Temecula Creeks. California law requires identification of Liquefaction Zones where the stability of foundation soils must be investigated, and countermeasures undertaken in the design and construction of buildings for human occupancy.

PLANS IN ACTION

California law requires disclosure of Liquefaction, Landslide, and Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault zones as a part of all real estate transactions within identified areas.

Landslides. Slope stability is related to a variety of factors including steepness; strength of geologic materials to resist the downward pull of gravity; characteristics of bedding planes, joints and faults; surface and ground water conditions; and other factors. Landslides are most likely to occur on hillside locations where rock strata parallels surface slopes, high clay content absorbs excess water, displacement has fractured a fault zone, or the base of a slope has been removed.

Although no recent landslides have occurred in the area, potential landslide conditions exist in hillside areas in southwest Temecula where existing slopes are greater than 15 percent (see Figure PS-1). California law requires identification of Landslide Zones where the stability of hill slopes must be evaluated, and countermeasures undertaken in the design and construction of buildings for human occupancy.

Subsidence. Subsidence occurs when earth material shrinks due to natural or artificial removal of underlying support. This process occurs in poor, unconsolidated soils and poorly



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PLANS IN ACTION

The City enforces State seismic design guidelines and building codes, works with property owners to rehabilitate hazardous buildings, and will prepare new hillside development standards.

PLANS IN ACTION

Specific building standards, described in the flood damage prevention and floodplain management regulations within the City Development Code, apply to flood prone areas, including anchoring, use of flood resistant building materials, use of adequate drainage paths, and elevating the structure to or above the base flood elevation.

compacted fill areas. The potential for subsidence exists along Santa Gertrudis and Temecula Creeks.

Erosion. The underlying surficial geology in Temecula is predominantly composed of well-drained fine sandy loams, sandy loams and gravelly silt loams. Soils characterized by low permeability or high runoff are susceptible to erosion. Additionally, the well-drained alluvium surfaces are susceptible to wind erosion.

The City will enact programs to reduce geologic hazards and protect public safety. To minimize hazards resulting from earthquakes, the most recent State seismic guidelines will be implemented for structural design. During the review of development proposals involving steep slopes, grading, unstable soils and other hazardous conditions, surveys of soil and geologic conditions by a state-licensed engineering geologist will be required. Based on the results of the survey, mitigation measures will be incorporated into projects to minimize geologic hazards. The City will take actions to make seismic and geologic hazard mitigation a part of land use planning efforts, such as working with property owners to remediate hazardous buildings, requiring disclosure of hazard zone status as part of real estate transactions, working with County and State agencies to monitor and compile information on seismic hazards, and adopting hillside development standards.

FLOOD HAZARDS

Flood hazards in Temecula can be divided into three categories: natural flooding, dam failure, and mud debris flows.

Natural Flooding. Figure PS-2 identifies areas of potential flood hazards within the Planning Area. Temecula contains several FEMA Special Flood Hazard Areas (SFHAs). These areas, corresponding to the 100-year floodplain, have the potential to become flooded when major rainstorms cause stream overflows. Murrieta Creek is the most flood-prone of the Temecula creeks. However, Temecula Creek, Pechanga Creek,










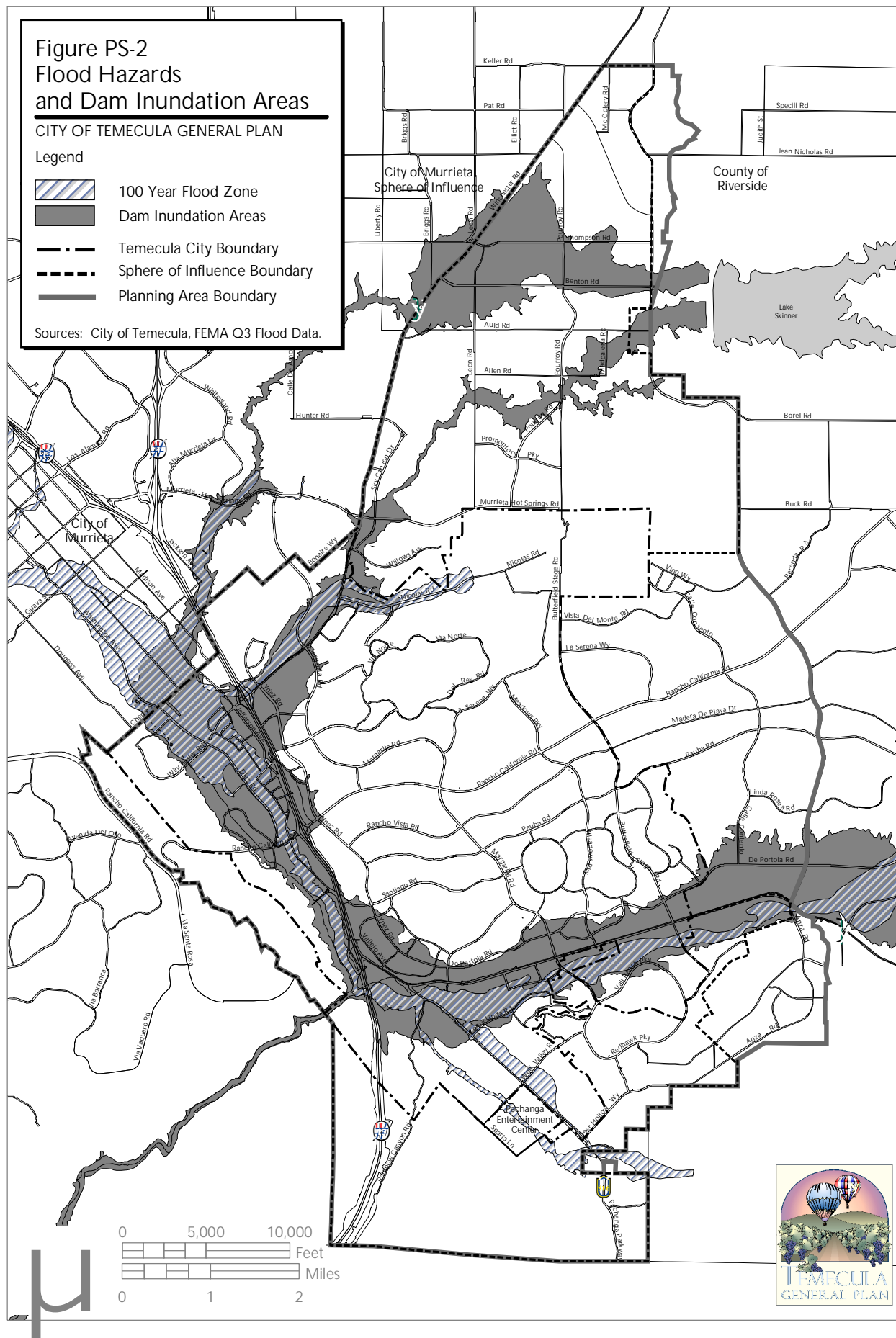
Figure PS-2
Flood Hazards
and Dam Inundation Areas

CITY OF TEMECULA GENERAL PLAN

Legend

-  100 Year Flood Zone
-  Dam Inundation Areas
-  Temecula City Boundary
-  Sphere of Influence Boundary
-  Planning Area Boundary

Sources: City of Temecula, FEMA Q3 Flood Data.





Tucalota Creek, Long Valley Wash, and Santa Gertrudis Creek could also be subjected to flooding.

Dam Failure. Flooding from dam failure can result from natural and human causes including earthquakes, erosion, improper siting and/or design and rapidly rising floodwater during heavy storms. The type of failure, ranging from instantaneous to gradual, is dependent on the building material of the dam. Dam failure can potentially cause loss of life and property damage. Other effects include displacement of persons residing in the inundation path and damage to infrastructure.

Three dams are located in areas surrounding Temecula:

- Lake Skinner is a 43,800-acre feet earthen dam located northeast of Temecula. Failure of the Lake Skinner Dam would result in flooding along Tucalota Creek and Benton Road.
- Vail Lake is located to the east of Temecula. Dam failure of this 51,000-acre foot facility would cause flooding in the Pauba and Temecula Valleys. Interstate 15 and an adjacent 3-mile area would also flood.
- Diamond Valley Lake, impounded by two earthen dams, is the largest reservoir in Southern California and is located north of Temecula. Failure of the western dam would result in flooding in the northern parts of the Planning Area.

The failure of Lake Skinner or Diamond Valley Lake could also result in substantial flooding along parts of Santa Gertrudis and Warm Springs Creeks. Areas along I-15 and Murrieta Creek could also be substantially affected.

Mud and Debris Flows. Mud and debris flows originate in hillside areas characterized by deep topsoil and/or poor drainage. The potential for mud and debris flows exists in the hilly southern and western portions of Temecula.

The City will continue to participate in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), which makes flood insurance available to affected property owners within the 100-year floodplain. The City will also review development plans for



PLANS IN ACTION

Temecula participates in the NFIP, enforces Development Code regulations regarding development in the floodplain and floodway, and maintains a dam inundation evacuation plan.

projects within the floodplain, to ensure compliance with City and FEMA floodplain development requirements. No development of any kind will be allowed in the floodway portion of the 100-year floodplain. The City will maintain a Dam Inundation Evacuation Plan, will update the Multi-Hazard Functional Plan as needed to address flood hazards, and will coordinate with the State Office of Emergency Services to ensure that dam safety plans reflect the level of development within the community.

FIRE HAZARDS

Temecula is subject to both natural and urban fires. The Planning Area is surrounded by rolling foothills and mountains subject to potential natural wild land fires.



Wild Land Fires. Fire in undeveloped areas results from the ignition of accumulated brush and vegetation. The most critical times of year for wildland fires are late summer and fall when Santa Ana winds bring hot, dry desert air into the region. The air temperature quickly dries vegetation, thereby increasing the amount of natural fuel. Development pressures increase the threat of wildland fire on human populations and property as development pushes to the fringes of major forests and brush areas. Increased human presence in wildland areas likewise increases the potential for human-induced wildland fires.

Urban Fires. The predominant land use in the Temecula area is low density residential development. The area has experienced rapid development in past decades, and this trend is expected to continue. As the number of structures increases, so does the incidence of fire. Building conditions that affect fire control include: type and use of structure; area of building; number of stories; roof covering materials; and adjacent uses.

Certain development patterns pose more difficult fire problems. These include: multi-story, wood frame, high density apartment development; large continuous developed areas with combustible



PLANS IN ACTION

The Fire Department reviews development plans to be sure new structures are safe, and conducts public education and outreach activities. The City also works closely with local water districts to ensure water pressure is adequate for fire fighting purposes.

HUMAN ACTIVITY HAZARDS

roofing materials; and facilities that use and/or store hazardous materials. Several older residential tracts in the City feature wood shake roofs, which increase the potential for both ignition and spread of fire.

Areas posing a significant risk to the City are subject to the California Public Resources Code, Sections 4291-4299, which require property owners to conduct periodic maintenance to reduce the fire danger. The Riverside County Fire Department (RCFD), through a cooperative agreement, provides fire protection, fire prevention, and emergency medical rescue services in the City of Temecula. The City will continue to reduce the potential for dangerous fires by coordinating with the RCFD to conduct fire hazard education, and administer fire protection and fuel modification programs. The current Uniform Fire Code will be used to prevent structural fire hazards.

Human activity hazards addressed in the Safety Plan include hazardous materials and nuclear power production.

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

PLANS IN ACTION

The City participates in the Riverside County Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) collection program in accordance with the California Integrated Solid Waste Management Act of 1989. County Environmental Health (EH) personnel, in conjunction with the Fire Department, respond to hazardous materials incidents, and assist County District Attorney to investigate environmental crimes and respond to illegal hazardous waste disposal complaints.

Hazardous materials are used in Temecula for a variety of purposes, including service industries, small businesses, schools and households. Many chemicals used in household cleaning, construction, dry cleaning, film processing, landscaping, and automotive maintenance and repair are considered hazardous. Accidents can also occur in the production, use, transport and disposal of hazardous waste.

In order to effectively manage hazardous materials and wastes, the City implements applicable portions of the Riverside County Hazardous Waste Management Plan (HWMP). Both the federal and State governments require all businesses that handle more than a specified amount of hazardous materials to submit an annual business plan to the local Certified Unified Program Agency (CUPA). The CUPA with responsibility for the City of Temecula is the Riverside County Environmental Health Department.

The City will work to minimize accidents and health risks from hazardous materials using the following approaches:

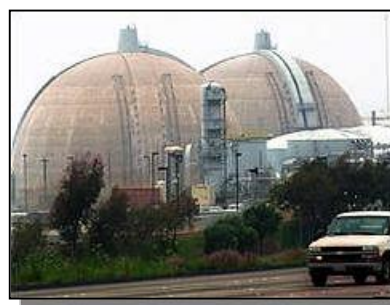


- Cooperate with federal, State, and County agencies to effectively regulate the management of hazardous materials and waste.
- Amend project applications to include requirements for submittal of hazardous waste information.
- Establish roadway transportation routes for conveyance of hazardous materials.
- Cooperate with the Certified United Program Agency (CUPA) for Temecula (the Riverside County Environmental Health Department) and the Riverside County Fire Department to administer risk management plans for businesses within the City.
- Implement the Multi-Hazard Functional Plan for accidents involving hazardous materials.

NUCLEAR POWER PRODUCTION

The San Onofre Nuclear Generating System (SONGS) is located on the Camp Pendleton U.S. Marine Corps Base in San Diego County, approximately 25 miles west of Temecula. SONGS operations are regulated by FEMA and the California Office of Emergency Services (OES). An Interjurisdictional Planning Committee (IPC), comprised of several local jurisdictions, was established to coordinate emergency response plans.

SONGS byproducts are radioactive, with the exception of small quantities of radioactive gas released into the air and liquids into the Pacific Ocean. The releases are monitored by SONGS personnel. According to SONGS, radiation exposure due to material releases is less than the typical exposure from natural background radiation. The two most likely sources of radiation contamination are incidents involving transport of radioactive materials, and uncontrolled releases at the plant site.





PLANS IN ACTION

Temecula's Multi-Hazard Functional Plan provides strategies to deal with potential emergencies related to SONGS.

SAFETY AND SECURITY

PLANS IN ACTION

When property owners present development proposals, the City encourages the use of crime preventive defensible space and lighting concepts to deter crime.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission has identified the area surrounding every nuclear generating station as an Emergency Planning Zone (EPZ). The State of California has defined the area outside, and adjacent to the EPZ as a Public Education Zone (PEZ). The federal government establishes the area with a 50-mile radius around every nuclear generating station as an Ingestion Pathway Zone (IPZ).

The Temecula planning area is located within the IPZ of the San Onofre Station. Education programs coordinated by the State and Southern California Edison are administered in this zone to ensure that residents are prepared for any potential problems associated with the facility.

Criminal activity in Temecula is lower than in some other parts of Riverside County. Protecting residents and businesses from criminal activity is a priority in Temecula. Police protection is provided by the Riverside County Sheriff's Department (RCSD). Temecula has three storefront office locations (Old Town Temecula, Promenade Mall, and Temecula Town Center). The City will ensure that contracted staffing levels are compatible with the City population and needs. Crime prevention programs include police services for residents and businesses, and citizen-based volunteer programs and patrols.



Local Emergency Preparedness Plans serve as extensions of the California Emergency Plan and the Emergency Resource Management Plan. The City has adopted a Multi-Hazard Functional Plan to ensure the effective management of City personnel and resources in responding to emergency situations stemming from natural disasters, technological incidents, and nuclear defense emergencies.

The plan includes a responsibility matrix that delineates specific responsibilities to City departments or personnel in the event of an emergency. The plan also includes a comprehensive hazard analysis that addresses the following potential hazards: earthquake, hazardous material incident, flooding, dam failure, major fire/wildfire, nuclear incident, and transportation incident.



PLANS IN ACTION

The Fire and Police Departments educate residents and businesses about appropriate actions to safeguard life and property during and after emergencies through distribution of brochures, presentations to civic groups, and instruction in local schools.

The Multi-Hazard Functional Plan provides general guidelines for evacuation routes in the event of a natural or human-caused disaster. Due to the unpredictability of the impact of a disaster on streets and highways, appropriate evacuation routes cannot be predetermined. In general, all traffic will be channeled to the nearby freeways, state highways, and other major arterials. I-15 will serve as the primary north-south evacuation channel. Winchester and Rancho California Roads will be used for east-west evacuation. Once the decision to evacuate is made, the public will be alerted and given evacuation instructions by various means, including school alert/monitor receivers, radio and television announcements, sirens, mobile loud speakers, and personal contact.

Educating residents and businesses about potential disasters and the Multi-Hazard Functional Plan can increase the effectiveness of response efforts. An educated public will know how to prevent injury and property damage during and after emergencies and also know how to find help.

One important way that residents participate in the City's emergency preparedness program is through the Temecula Citizen's Corps. Created in 2002, the Corps is a community-based volunteer organization whose goal is to prepare for natural disasters or terrorist activity through coordinated response at the neighborhood level. In the event of an emergency, the Corps will assist the City government by providing assistance in cases where the scale of the incident has overwhelmed conventional emergency services.

TERRORISM READINESS AND RESPONSE

In the aftermath of the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001, the City of Temecula's emergency preparedness and response services have become an even more critical function to address terrorism issues that confront the nation and local communities. Since the events of 9/11, a considerable amount of information has been generated on potential vulnerabilities, protective measures, and anti-terrorism/security technologies. The Riverside County Sheriff's and Fire Departments, which currently provide police and fire services to Temecula, recognizes the need not only to learn from the lessons from 9/11, but also to collectively address the terrorism planning and policy issues that most affect Temecula residents. The goals, policies and implementation programs associated with emergency preparedness also apply to terrorism readiness and response.



GOALS AND POLICIES

Certain natural conditions and human activities in Temecula create risks to individuals and properties within the community. Excessive risk from such hazards can be reduced or avoided through implementation of policies in the Public Safety Element.

The Public Safety Element addresses four major issues, including: 1) reducing risk from natural hazardous conditions; 2) reducing risks from hazards associated with human activities; 3) community safety and security; and 4) preparing for emergency situations.

NATURAL HAZARDS

Due to location within a seismically active region and the presence of floodplains and hillsides, Temecula is potentially subject to several types of natural hazards, including earthquakes, liquefaction, flooding, wild land fires, landslides, and erosion. Potential damage can be reduced through appropriate land use planning, development engineering, and building construction practices.

The Planning Area contains Alquist-Priolo fault zones and County Fault Hazard Zones. These zones identify areas potentially impacted by groundshaking and surface-rupture. Seismic events occurring within and outside of the Planning Area also have the potential to trigger such secondary impacts as liquefaction and subsidence. Other natural hazards impacting the Planning Area include flooding and dam inundation.

Goal 1	Protection from natural hazards associated with geologic instability, seismic events, wild land fires, flooding, and dam failures.
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Policy 1.1	Identify and mitigate potential adverse impacts of ground surface rupture, liquefaction, and landslides at the project level.
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Policy 1.2	Apply and enforce seismic design standards and building construction codes for new development.
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Policy 1.3	Work with property owners to remediate hazardous buildings throughout the City.
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Policy 1.4	Monitor the potential for seismic events and other geologic activity with the County of Riverside and California Geological Survey.
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HUMAN-
CAUSED
HAZARDS

- Policy 1.5 Establish development management techniques to lessen the potential for erosion and landslides.
- Policy 1.6 Provide and maintain adequate flood control facilities and limit development within the 100-year floodplain and potential dam inundation areas.
- Policy 1.7 Prohibit development of any kind within the floodway portion of the 100-year floodplain.
- Policy 1.8 Reduce the risk of wild land fire through imposition of site-specific development standards during project review and coordination with the City Fire Department and other organizations.

The transport, storage, and disposal of hazardous materials and the education and planning regarding nuclear power production are important environmental planning issues in Temecula. Modern technology and society's high standard of living has led to dependence on these products and necessitates adequate management of materials and waste and education regarding hazards within the City. The intent is to avoid damage to people, property and environmental resources.

Goal 2	Protection of the public and environmental resources from hazards related to hazardous materials and waste, and nuclear power production.
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- Policy 2.1 Minimize the risks associated with hazardous materials through careful land use planning and coordination with responsible federal, State, and County agencies.
- Policy 2.2 Participate in local and regional programs that facilitate the proper disposal of household hazardous waste.
- Policy 2.3 The policies and programs of the current Riverside County Hazardous Waste Management Plan (HWMP) are hereby adopted by reference.
- Policy 2.4 Coordinate with local, State and federal agencies to reduce the risks related to nuclear power production.



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SAFETY AND
SECURITY

Policy 2.5 Reduce potential hazards associated with airplane accidents by ensuring compliance of proposed development projects with the risk contours contained in the Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan (ALUCP) for French Valley Airport.

The perception of personal safety and the security of property are central to the quality of life in a community. Realizing these objectives requires both proactive and reactive involvement by citizens, as well as fire and law enforcement personnel. The risk of exposure to criminal activity or fire can be reduced through planning, education and regulation of human activity, and by providing paved road access throughout the City. In addition, the design and effective use of the built environment can lead to a reduction in fear and the incidence of both crime and fire, improving the quality of life, and helping create a secure sense of community.

Goal 3 A safe and secure community free from the threat of personal injury and loss of property.

Policy 3.1 Ensure adequate facilities and police and fire service personnel are provided in the City.

Policy 3.2 Continue to work with the community in operating citizen involved programs and patrols that promote mutual assistance and crime prevention activities among residents.

Policy 3.3 Incorporate crime prevention and defensible space into site plans and building designs for new development.

Policy 3.4 Ensure that all-weather and appropriate secondary access is provided to ensure timely emergency response. Require all residential development with 35 or more dwelling units to provide all-weather secondary access that meets City standards.

EMERGENCY
PREPAREDNESS

Major emergencies occur periodically in all communities. Timely and coordinated action by agencies charged with responsibilities in the event of a disaster is necessary to mitigate the effect of a disaster on the human population and environment. Preventive measures and preparatory responses before an emergency occurs will hasten recovery.



Goal 4	An effective response of emergency services following a disaster.
Policy 4.1	Provide for and maintain a coordinated emergency services response to reduce community risks and property damage in the event of a disaster.
Policy 4.2	Support the development and implementation of local preparedness plans and multi-jurisdictional cooperation for emergency situations consistent with the Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS).
Policy 4.3	Coordinate emergency response planning with Riverside County and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).
Policy 4.4	Encourage community-wide emergency preparedness among City residents and the business community.
Policy 4.5	Regulate the location of critical facilities to ensure they continue to function after a disaster.
Policy 4.6	Discourage the closure of streets that limit or delay access for emergency services.

IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAMS

The following Implementation Programs provide actions to implement Public Safety Element goals and policies.

PS-1 NATURAL HAZARDS RISK REDUCTION

Reduce the risk to the community from hazards related to geologic conditions, seismic activity, wild land fires, and flooding by requiring feasible mitigation of such impacts on existing development, new development, and reuse projects. Assess development proposals for potential hazards pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Require measures to mitigate all identified significant public safety hazards. Address the following issues in the assessment:

- Steep slopes, unstable geologic materials and faulting;
- Flooding;
- Wild land and structural fires and adequacy of water pressure for fire fighting; and



- Hazardous materials use, transport, storage or disposal.

Agency/Department: Planning, Building & Safety, Public Works

Related Policies: 1.1, 1.4, 1.5, 1.6, 1.7, 1.8

PS-2
STRUCTURAL
DESIGN

To minimize damage from earthquakes and other geologic activity, implement most recent and most stringent California and Uniform Building Code seismic requirements for structural design for new development and reuse projects.

Agency/Department: Planning, Building & Safety

Related Policy: 1.2

PS-3
SOIL AND
GEOLOGIC
SURVEYS

During review of development and reuse proposals, require surveys of soil and geologic conditions by State licensed Engineering Geologists and Civil Engineers where appropriate. Examples of when these surveys are required are:

- Prior to the development of any area with slopes more than 10 feet high at a gradient equal to or steeper than 2:1;
- Projects located within a State-delineated Seismic Hazard Zone for liquefaction or seismically-induced landsliding, in accordance with the California Geological Survey; or,
- Projects located within an Earthquake Fault Zone or within 150 feet of an active or potentially active fault.

If potential for fault displacement or liquefaction exists on the site, structures for human occupancy may not be placed there unless the seismic hazard is mitigated to an acceptable level.

Agency/Department: Public Works, Planning, Building & Safety

Related Policy: 1.1



PS-4
LAND USE
PLANNING AND
NOTIFICATION

Implement the following actions to ensure that the land use planning and real estate processes fully account for the presence of seismic hazards in Temecula.

- Require that any person selling property within a delineated Earthquake Fault Zone, Liquefaction Zone, or Landslide Zone disclose this fact to any prospective purchaser.
- Work with the County of Riverside and California Geological Survey to monitor and compile information on faults within the Temecula Planning Area.
- Update the City's listing of hazardous unreinforced masonry buildings periodically. Provide technical assistance and funding to remediate these structures, as available.
- Develop a Land Use Suitability Matrix for Special Studies and County Fault Hazards Zones. The Matrix will categorize land uses according to risk and develop restrictions for these uses in zones.

Agency/Department: Planning, Building & Safety, Public Works

Related Policies: 1.1, 1.3, 1.4

Required by General Plan EIR

PS-5
HILLSIDE
DEVELOPMENT
STANDARDS

Prepare and adopt hillside development standards for site development and drainage that work to control runoff for erosion control and water quality purposes. Require geotechnical investigations for areas of known or suspected geologic hazards.

Agency/Department: Planning, Public Works

Related Policy: 1.5

Required by General Plan EIR

PS-6
FLOOD
INSURANCE

Continue to participate in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) administered through the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The NFIP program provides federal flood insurance subsidies and federally financed loans for property owners in flood-prone areas.

Agency/Department: Public Works, Planning, Building & Safety

Related Policies: 1.6, 1.7



PS-7
MITIGATE FLOOD
HAZARDS

Mitigate flood hazards in Temecula by:

- Reviewing development proposals for projects within FEMA Special Flood Hazard Areas for consistency with City flood damage prevention and floodplain management regulations and FEMA requirements.
- Prohibiting development of any kind within the floodway portion of the 100-year floodplain.
- Maintaining a Dam Inundation Evacuation Plan as part of the Multi-Hazard Functional Plan.
- Coordinating planning projections with the Office of Emergency Services to ensure that dam safety plans reflect development in the community.

Agency/Department: Public Works, Planning, Building & Safety

Related Policies: 1.6, 1.7

PS-8
PROMOTE FIRE
PREVENTION

Promote fire prevention in Temecula in the following ways:

- Work closely with the Fire Department to implement fire hazard education and fire prevention programs.
- Work with the Fire Department to establish fire prevention and mitigation measures in wild land fire hazard areas.
- Expand and improve vegetation management efforts in wild land fire hazard areas.
- Coordinate with the local water districts and Fire Department to ensure that water pressure for urban areas and sites to be developed is adequate for fire fighting purposes.
- Adopt and implement California Fire Code provisions and appropriate amendments to reflect Temecula's topography, vegetation, and urban form.
- Support public education, information, fire prevention and fire law enforcement programs conducted by the Fire Department.

Agency/Department: Fire, Planning

Related Policy: 1.8



PS-9
REDUCE RISKS
FROM
HAZARDOUS
MATERIALS

Minimize public health and environmental risks from the use, transport, storage and disposal of hazardous materials through the following actions:

- Cooperate with federal, State, and local agencies to effectively regulate the management of hazardous materials and waste.
- Amend project applications to include requirements for submittal of information involving the proposed use, storage, handling, transport and/or disposal of hazardous materials/wastes and any previous use, storage, handling and/or disposal of such materials/wastes.
- Cooperate with the County of Riverside to implement applicable portions of the County Hazardous Waste Management Plan (HWMP) and the Hazardous Materials Area Plan (HMAP), as well as to maintain an inventory of facilities that store, handle, or transport hazardous materials.
- Establish transportation routes for the conveyance of hazardous materials. Transportation of hazardous materials shall be restricted through residential areas and arterials during peak hours.
- Implement the Multi-Hazard Functional Plan for accidents involving hazardous materials.

Agency/Department: Planning, Public Works, Building & Safety, Fire
Related Policies: 2.1, 2.3

PS-10
HOUSEHOLD
HAZARDOUS
WASTE PROGRAM

Support efforts by the County Household Hazardous Waste Program to protect residents from dangers resulting from the use, transport and disposal of hazardous materials used in the home. The program includes public education about health and environmental hazards of household hazardous materials and periodic collection campaigns at established sites.

Agency/Department: Community Services, County Environmental Health Department
Related Policy: 2.2



PS-11
NUCLEAR POWER
PRODUCTION
RISKS
REDUCTION

Reduce nuclear power production risks in the following ways.

- Participate in programs and emergency response exercises with federal and State agencies and Southern California Edison to minimize the risks related to nuclear power production.
- Implement measures related to the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station (SONGS) in the City's Multi-Hazard Functional Plan to ensure that residents are prepared for any problems associated with the facility.

Agency/Department: Planning, Public Works, Building & Safety
Related Policy: 2.6

PS-12
MINIMIZE
CRIMINAL
ACTIVITY

Protect residents and businesses from criminal activity by providing substantive levels of police protection and educating the public about methods to reduce criminal activity. The specific actions to implement these goals are identified below:

- When renewing the service contracts with the Riverside County Sheriff's Department, ensure that contracted staffing levels are consistent with the population and geography of Temecula, and that sufficient emphasis is placed on staff and programs for crime prevention.
- Ensure the mutual aid agreements between the City and surrounding jurisdictions are in place for emergency situations.
- Use defensible space and lighting concepts in development projects designed to enhance public safety.
- Increase public awareness about criminal activity and crime prevention activities. Maximize the use of after school programs, volunteer and citizen programs, and other community oriented policing programs with the Police Department.

Agency/Department: City Manager's Office, Police, Planning
Related Policies: 3.1, 3.2, 3.3



PS-13
SECONDARY
ACCESS

Require all residential development with 35 or more dwelling units to provide secondary access that meets full City standards to ensure timely emergency service response.

Agency/Department: Planning, Fire
Related Policy: 3.4

PS-14
MULTI-HAZARD
FUNCTIONAL PLAN

Maintain the Multi-Hazard Functional Plan under provisions of the State Emergency Management System format to maximize the efforts of emergency service providers (e.g. fire, medical and law enforcement) and minimize human suffering and property damage associated with disasters. The Plan should identify resources available for emergency response and establish coordinated action plans for specific emergency situations and disasters including earthquakes, hazardous materials incidents, flooding, dam failure, wild land fire, incidents at the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station, transportation incidents, and national security emergencies.

Agency/Department: City Manager's Office, Public Works,
Police, Fire, Planning
Related Policies: 4.1, 4.2, 4.3

PS-15
EMERGENCY
PREPAREDNESS
EDUCATION

Encourage resident participation in citizen-based programs and educate residents to take appropriate actions to safeguard life and property during and immediately after emergencies. Education about emergency preparedness can occur through the distribution of brochures, presentations to civic groups and homeowners associations and instruction to local schools.

Agency/Department: Planning, Police, Fire
Related Policy: 4.1

PS-16
GRADING
ORDINANCE

Prepare, adopt and implement a grading ordinance to ensure that grading associated with new development projects is conducted in accordance with appropriate geotechnical engineering standards

Agency/Department: Planning, Public Works
Related Policy: 1.5
Required by General Plan EIR



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